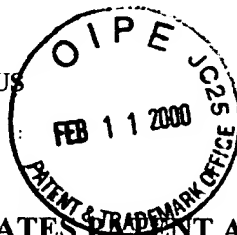


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Date of Deposit: February 11, 2000



Attorney Docket No. 00960-515 (CRP-145)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Cohen and Sampath
ASSIGNEE: CREATIVE BIOMOLECULES, INC.
SERIAL NUMBER: 08/851,628 EXAMINER: David S. Romeo
FILING DATE: May 6, 1997 ART UNIT: 1646
FOR: NOVEL THERAPIES FOR CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE

February 11, 2000
Boston, Massachusetts

Box CPA
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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GDDMM
03/09/00

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicants are filing a Request for Continued Prosecution Application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) concurrently with the present Preliminary Amendment. Applicants have also filed concurrently herewith a petition for one-month extension of time with a check to cover the \$110.00 extension fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a). With the extension, the response is due on or before Monday, February 14, 2000. Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311 (Reference No. 00960-515, CRP-145).

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 13 and 14, without prejudice, amend claims 1-4, and 12, and insert new claims 33-34 as follows: